

# Aging

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

No. 74 -- December 1960

V. F. Old age

THE UNIVERSITY  
OF MICHIGAN  
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## Former Film Stars Compare Notes

Shown at the November 15 meeting of the WHCA National Advisory Committee meeting in Washington are Dean Charles I. Schottland of the School of Advanced Studies in Social Welfare at Brandeis University (Waltham, Mass.) and Miss Mary Pickford of Beverly Hills, Calif.

Dean Schottland is Chairman of the Planning Committee and WHCA Section on "Income Maintenance." He is former U.S. Commissioner of Social Security. Miss Pickford is serving as an NAC member of the Planning Committee for "Housing."

At the moment this picture was taken, Dean Schottland introduced himself to "America's Sweetheart" as a boy actor in several of her most famous movies, including "Little Lord Fauntleroy" and "Daddy Longlegs."

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## WHCA National Advisory Committee Approves Final Conference Plans

At the November 15-16 meeting of the National Advisory Committee for the White House Conference on Aging, final plans for the Conference were approved, and a joint session was held with WHCA Governors' Designees from participating States and Territories to hear special reports from all parts of the country.

## No Voting at Plenary Sessions

The rules of order for the Conference, as approved by the Advisory Committee, provide for voting at the Workgroup and Section sessions, but not at the Group and Plenary Sessions.

## Each Section Develops One Policy Statement

The chief decision of the Advisory Committee was that the immediate objective of the White House Conference is the development of policy statements in each of the 20 subject Sections.

This "policy statement" approach is intended to consolidate and focus major findings and recommendations, thereby hopefully avoiding the

(continued on p. 22, col. 2)

## Texas:

### Action and Reaction after State Conference

This article is adapted from the December 1960 issue of *The Herald*, published by the E. D. Farmer Foundation, P.O. Box 4791, Dallas 6.

One hundred and seventy-five senior citizens met in Dallas on November 10 to discuss the recommendations of the Texas Governor's Conference on Aging.

They voted to begin plans for a permanent organization and to have a second meeting soon after the WHCA.

Sponsoring organizations for this meeting were the E. D. Farmer Foundation, Dallas Home for Jewish Aged, Julius Schepps Community Center, C. C. Young Memorial Home (Methodist), Mary E. Trew Home (Baptist), Retired Teachers Association, Golden Age Clubs of the Dallas Housing Authority, Division on Aging of the Dallas Council of Social Agencies, and many Golden Age Clubs of Dallas.

Purpose of the meeting was to get a frank expression of opinion on the recommendations of the Governor's Conference, and to make any additions which this November 10 conference found desirable.

Following the opening address by Mrs. William B. Ruggles, who is a member of the Steering Committee of the Governor's Conference and of the Interim Legislative Committee, six groups discussed the recommendations of the six different sections of the State Conference.

The meeting then approved the following summary of its reactions to the Governor's Conference:

### INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT

- There was real resentment over being lumped with the blind and crippled people in the assistance programs just because they are old.
- There was deep resentment over having to take a pauper's oath in order to qualify for Old Age Assistance.
- They felt strongly that the ceiling should be raised on what can be earned by those on Old-Age and Survivors Insurance.
- They felt strongly that the vendor medical payment plan should be implemented immediately.

### HEALTH

- They felt strongly that a health insurance plan should be established and that it should be part of the Federal social security program. It should make ample provision for long time sickness.
- The health insurance program under OASI should allow the recipient to use the physician of his own choice if he so desired.
- They wish clinics could be more conveniently located, not so large, and not on such a mass production basis. Fees should be based on the ability to pay.

## HOUSING

- They felt the great need was for more low cost housing, not too far out and close to shopping facilities and transportation.
- They wished to have those houses equipped with the safety features now becoming standard in housing for the elderly.
- They would like nurses available at all times in housing developments.

## WELFARE

- They felt the creation of a county committee on aging is a necessity.
- They felt strongly the pauper's oath should be removed.
- They wanted the ceiling raised on what the recipient of OASI could earn.
- They felt the case load of the Old Age Assistance worker should be reduced.

## EDUCATION AND RECREATION

- They agreed there is need for a change in the public's image of the older person and his needs.
- They agreed the older person's image of the later years should be a good one.
- They agreed that many plans are made for children but more emphasis should also be placed on needs of the aging.

## POPULATION TRENDS AND RESEARCH

- There should be greater effort to train nurses and doctors in working with the aged and more scholarships should be made available to assist them in that training.
- Vocational Rehabilitation should pay more attention to the older adult, retraining him for other work when his job is abolished due to technological changes.

## Arkansas:

### New Patterns in Floral Design

Prompted by an urgent need for trained florist personnel, the Florist Association and the Employment Security Division in Little Rock initiated a special project to train workers in floral design. Involved in the development of this project were Miss Annie Mae Davidson, Older Worker Specialist in the Little Rock ESD office, and Mrs. Fannie Beard, Arkansas Older Worker Specialist.

The two women called on florist shop owners for their opinions as to what should be included in such a training course. Shop owners felt floral design salesmanship, customer relations, and telephone contacts were the most important.

Supplies were furnished by local wholesale and retail florists. The class of 15 (2 dropped later) drew on backgrounds of wide diversity—bookkeepers, PBX operators, sales people, beauty operators, factory workers, nurses, teachers, and housewives.

Members of the "graduating class" will be placed by the ESD office which is now screening applicants for the various florists.

More information: Mrs. Fannie Beard, Box 2981, Little Rock.

### "Screen Test Day"

By Edna Treasure, Ed. D., Executive Director, District of Columbia Council on Aging, Briggs-Montgomery Bldg., 27 and K Sts., NW., Washington 7.

September 9 was "Screen Test Day" for participants in the Citizens' Forum sponsored by the D.C. Council on Aging.

A multiphasic unit promoting prevention and positive health was in operation in a convenient location all day. No fees were charged, and the reports of resulting interpretations were made available to participants' private physicians. If the "patient" was not under private medical supervision, he was referred to a public clinic.

#### Variety of Tests

The "Screen Test" registrars were busy all day as participants had their height and weight checked, were counselled on problems of obesity, had blood pressure taken, clintron tests made for diabetes, electrocardiograms traced and glaucoma (tension) readings recorded.

Polio "shots" were also given. The senior citizens who felt they were "naturally" immune listened while Public Health nurses explained that viruses were unable to discern the age of their host.

#### Reasons for Participation

This screening program attracted participants for many reasons according to their own written comments:

- (a) it was free,
- (b) it was conveniently located,
- (c) there was little or no waiting for the various phases of the program,
- (d) it was a "fine public service."

#### Agencies Responsible

Cooperating with the D.C. Council on Aging in this "action program" were the U.S. Public Health Service, the D.C. Department of Public Health, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Providence Hospital, the Pilot Club, The Catholic University of America, members of the D.C. Medical Society, and many volunteers, including a number of "teens" who served as messengers.

The American Cancer Society provided a continuous showing of films for women only which was well received.

#### Referrals for Follow-Up

Referrals for follow-up were distributed as follows:

Screening Test	Referrals	Total Exams
EKG	39	163
Glaucoma	23	80
Diabetes	4	104

A large variety of health literature was distributed. Other subject matter was available in addition to the material covering the tests offered.

## Indiana:

### Progress in Community Organization

By Harold B. Frame, Editor, *Mature Living*, 2303 Maple St., Columbus, Ind.

In October, there were 25 counties in Indiana with active committees on the problems of the aging. These committees are broadly based and made up of lay and professional people representing business, industry, labor, education, health, welfare, and civic and fraternal organizations. They have set about to study and learn what problems face the older people of their community, to set priorities, and to attempt to solve these problems.

#### Three With Full-Time Staff

St. Joseph and Bartholomew Counties employ full-time staff to work with these committees; Marion County Health and Welfare Council has a staff member who devotes full-time to this phase of the work; Allen County has a worker who devotes part-time to aging projects.

The committees are carrying out such projects as hobby shows, senior citizen centers, counseling services, friendly visitor programs, working toward accrediting county homes for nursing care, work with the aged in mental hospitals, housing, and many others.

The State Committee on Community Organization was hoping to add another half-dozen or more counties to this list before the WHCA.

### Local Chapters Established by AARP

The American Association of Retired Persons has begun to set up local chapters throughout the country. Youngtown, Arizona, became the first community to organize a local AARP chapter.

Dr. Ethel Percy Andrus, president of the 300,000-member organization, addressed the Youngtown members on October 5 and presented Mr. Elmer Johns, their president, with a chapter charter.

Other communities had been added by mid-November to the list of AARP Chapters: Wayne, W. Va.; Hot Springs National Park, Ark.; Sun City, Ariz.; Kansas City, Mo.; St. Joseph, Mo.; Pontiac, Mich.; and Hendersonville, N.C.

Dr. Andrus, a member of the National Advisory Committee for the WHCA, said the purpose of AARP local chapters is "to stimulate local action to help older people, to educate members on how AARP can help them, and to encourage older people actively to participate in improving their own communities."

All AARP chapter members are 55 years and over.

AARP headquarters is at the Dupont Circle Bldg., Washington 6, D.C.



# White House Conference "Hopes & Expectations"

## Delegates Respond to Informal Survey; Representative Variety of Attitudes Shows Full Range of Opinions

In November the Editor of *Aging* sent this letter to a random sample of WHCA Delegates throughout the United States, representing individual States and national voluntary organizations in a 3 to 1 ratio:

You have been selected completely at random from among the 2,800 official WHCA Delegates for an informal survey on the "hopes and expectations for the WHCA."

Your name will not be used to identify the quotation we seek from you. We only want to identify it in print as to geographic origin.

Can you give us, in no more than three sentences, your "hopes and expectations" for the White House Conference on Aging?

The replies, arranged in a "West to East" geographic pattern, have shown strong interest in the full range of problems of the aging. Respondents were selected in all sections of the country.

Those who have shared in WHCA planning and preparation work, and all who are participating in the Conference, will agree that this survey shows the WHCA is a real opportunity for "Aging With A Future" in the U.S.A.

### Hawaii

I am particularly interested to obtain practical methods and practices usable in fields comparable to the one I represent (League of Senior Citizens), and to get a feeling of fellowship with those trying to be of service in this area of serious need.

I hope to have personal interviews (corridors probably) with others working with the aging, in the rural and small town field.

### Alaska

It is my hope that the WHCA will point the way to the creation of a new Department in the President's Cabinet, the Department of Aging with full responsibilities and authorities similar to other Departments, i.e., the Department of Agriculture taking care of nine million farmers.

### Utah

It is our hope that this Conference will bring about a solution to special problems such as the overcoming of community indifference, insularity, misinformation, and ignorance.

If we could just disseminate knowledge and/or information regarding available programs that already exist, our problems would be well on their way to a solution.

### Montana

Out of this historic Conference should come a better understanding of the problems affecting the aging; some agreement on where responsibility falls for action; and an enthusiasm for continued action which delegates will take back when they return to their home States.

### Washington State

I expect the White House Conference on Aging to produce definite plans through which legislation can be proposed to Congress, and to the States, dealing with the problems of the aged in fields of income, taxation and health.

The WHCA should suggest the employment of people over 65 to social agencies, labor unions, employers' organizations, and service organizations; and it should urge the medical profession, social workers and service organizations to collaborate in the field of recreation.

### Idaho

Children of aged parents have a serious moral obligation to care for them during their golden years. Where this is not possible, the obligation falls to the State.

I hope this Conference develops new techniques and fresh ideas to help both children and the State to fulfill their obligation at the local level.

### Oklahoma

I hope the Conference will result in changed attitudes about aging, especially a new awareness of the creative opportunities of later life.

I expect a boiling up and exchange of ideas on many specific problems—especially how to increase interest of the aging in continuing their education.

I hope publishers will hear and heed a strong cry for books and magazines on more kinds of subjects, in easy-to-handle, easy-to-read format.

### Texas

My main hope for the White House Conference is that a solution may be found for our senior citizens to insure their old age thru private companies, that they can be cared for in proprietary homes instead of the Government having to take over the insurance and too many non-profit custodial and Nursing Homes being built by the Government.

Free enterprise is the American way even in the field of aging.

### Wisconsin

I hope that particular attention in housing be given to modest income non-indigent older persons, and that particular attention in housing needs also be given to the unattached older woman.

### Indiana

I hope that from this Conference a philosophy will be developed to make it possible for the average individual to arrive at the period in life called aged with enough of his skills and capabilities left so that he commands rather than demands a place in our social and economic life.

We must find ways of making it possible for the aged to meet their needs rather than providing for their needs.

### Kentucky

I hope and expect from the WHCA greater cooperative assistance offered to Homes for the Aged on national, State, and local levels, and greater appreciation for the work already being done in the field of Homes for the Aged.

### Georgia

Surely we all aspire to have the economic and social fields reach their goal of providing the needs for those extra years of life which science and medicine have already given to man.



## Alabama

I hope this survey and study that has been made, will not be in vain, and that we can get help in taking care of our aging.

## Florida

I hope to gain insight into the real needs of older people.

I hope to keep the material and spiritual needs in proper perspective, to give a spiritual quality to the Conference, and to gain information as to ways of securing needed help for the needy without sacrificing their status as persons.

I also hope to increase my own awareness of the creative abilities of most persons throughout life, and to find ways of putting these abilities to good use.

## Virginia

I would hope we delegates might extend our modest influence in the direction of sharing and underwriting the good practices, with regard to the aging, that have already been stabilized, rather than seeking world-shaking innovations.

## Washington, D.C.

If the WHCA can arouse the civic consciousness of the country to the same pitch of participation for the purpose of non-profit housing for the elderly as it now exists for the purposes of cultural and medical facilities, the impact of the Conference will be of immense value. And housing, of course, is only one of the many areas in which the Conference can inject new, effective vitality.

## Ohio

I should hope that the White House Conference would summarize and interpret what has been done in the field of work with our aging population, and point the way to areas in which work needs to be done.

I should hope, too, that a new emphasis be placed on the value of truly educational activity for the older person, and some recognition be made of the possibilities of developing *liberal education* as differentiated from hand-work training which has so often gone under the name of education.

Also, I should like to see emphasis change from "they" to "we"—until we aging people ourselves take a hand in shaping our own destiny, the program cannot be truly vital.

## Pennsylvania

My hopes are that the deliberations of this Conference will result in an expansion of research relating to the nutritional and health needs of the aging individual; and that an appreciation be developed of the need to make full use of the intellectual abilities and technical skills of all citizens with no age barriers such as compulsory retirement.

## New Jersey

I hope to learn some ways of reaching those who are over 65 with information about what services we have in our community to assist them. They don't have telephones, radios, and TV's.

I would like to know more about preventive health programs that we who are in our fifties can start availing ourselves of before it's too late—so that a like program could be set up in my community.

Finally, I am interested to discover methods of drawing those who are quite alone back into the stream of community life through church programs, school programs, and recreational programs.

## New York

My hopes are for the development of a definitive, objective statement on the provision of adequate medical care services for the aged, a statement that could serve as guide to the various groups and agencies who are interested in this problem.

My expectations: Development of a useless statement of pious platitudes as a result of vocal pressure groups more concerned with their own interests than with the problems of aged people.

## Rhode Island

Arbitrary age-retirement should be eliminated in accordance with the modern concept that continuing motivation is essential to well-being.

## New Hampshire

It is my hope, rather than any expectation that the White House Conference on Aging will result in some concrete action, not recommendations for "continued study and research."

## At WHCA:

### "Special Meetings" Cover Broad Topics

On Monday evening January 9, during the White House Conference on Aging, eight separate "Special Meetings" on broad topics of current interest in the field of aging are scheduled. Each of these concurrent meetings will be attended by several hundred WHCA delegates and others.

Intended to be educational and informative, these meetings will provide a "change of pace" for WHCA delegates who have to spend most of their time at workgroup and Section sessions in the subject of their choice. They are meant to stimulate interest in a wider approach to problems of aging, and they may well serve as models for future regional, State, and local informational forums.

Outstanding national experts have been invited to participate.

A report on the "Special Meetings" will be published, if possible, in an early issue of *Aging*:

- (1) "New Horizons in Health and Rehabilitation—Accentuate the Positive"
- (2) "Highways to Economic Security"
- (3) "Institutional Care for the Aged—Today and Tomorrow"
- (4) "Are Graybeards White Elephants in the Work Force?"
- (5) "Action for the Aging: Individual, Group, or Government Responsibility?"
- (6) "Society's Concern for the Aged Who Need Protective Services"
- (7) "The Older Person, Family Life, and the Services They Need"
- (8) "Housing 1961: A Comparison of Today's Solutions in the United States and Abroad."

## **\$300,000 Ford Foundation Grant To Family Service Association**

This article is based on a news release from the Family Service Association of America, 215 Park Ave S, NYC 3.

The Ford Foundation has approved a grant of \$300,000 to the Family Service Association of America for a concentrated four-year program to improve counseling, homemaker services, foster care and other specialized programs of family agencies for helping older people and their families. The grant was announced November 17 by Clark W. Blackburn, general director of the Association.

Thomas H. Carroll, Vice President of The Ford Foundation with officer responsibility for the Foundation's special program in aging, explained that the project is designed to demonstrate "what can be done in selected communities to strengthen counseling and other programs operated by Family Service agencies so as to foster experimentation and permit the upgrading of service to the aged." Furthermore, the project should foster the training of family social workers in new concepts and techniques for helping older people and their families, and stimulate closer cooperation at the community level between voluntary and public agencies.

The project calls for the employment of a small "highly mobile" staff of specialists, experienced in work with the aging and in the management of voluntary social agencies. Demonstrations would be conducted in some 30 communities under a nationwide plan decided upon by a national advisory committee.

Programs to receive attention include:

- counseling for elderly people and their families for problems of emotional and social adjustment;
- homemaker services;
- placement in selected and supervised foster homes;
- friendly visiting by trained volunteers;
- information and referral services;
- research into the causes and solutions of problems of the aging;
- cooperation with other organizations and public officials in the promotion of high-priority services such as adequate nursing home care, guardianship services, and the training of personnel.

The Family Service Association is the national federation of almost 300 United Fund supported Family Service agencies in the United States and Canada which have as their main functions the prevention of family breakdown and the strengthening of family life.

## **PHS Research Grants in Aging**

**Total \$1,869,027**

The Public Health Service announced on November 2 that the National Institutes of Health made 94 grants to private institutions totaling \$1,869,027 for research in various aspects of aging.

### **University of Miami Gets \$233,371**

Included in the new awards is a grant by the NIH Division of General Medical Sciences to the University of Miami School of Medicine in the amount of \$233,371, to support a broad program of coordinated research on cellular aging. This is the fourth grant made by the Public Health Service since 1957 for large, comprehensive research programs on aging.

The grant program, costs of which are paid by the seven Institutes of NIH and the Division of General Medical Sciences, is providing support for more than 700 research projects in aging at an annual level of \$15 million, including \$2.5 million for 127 grants made thus far in 1960.

A list of the grants, indicating the names of the institutions, the investigators' names, the amounts of the grants for the first year, and the titles of the projects, is available from the Information Office, Division of General Medical Sciences, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda 14, Md.

### **CORRECTION**

A NEWS ITEM in *Aging* 72 (October) on page 4 gave a misleading account of the purpose for a recent \$160,000 Ford Foundation Grant to Brown University in Providence.

The Ford Foundation has advised *Aging* that this grant was made for a comprehensive analysis of management and labor practices as they affect the employment of middle-aged and older workers. This analysis will include studies of collective-bargaining agreements, hiring practices, the effect and extent of trade-union policies, and occupational patterns on the older-worker labor market.

A separate \$250,000 Ford Foundation Grant was made in May 1960 to the University of Wisconsin for a study of the effects of private pension plans on the hiring and retention of older persons. Research at the University of Wisconsin will also concern the financial security allowed by various benefit formulas, Federal and State regulation of pension funds, and the legal and financial aspects of pension plans.

Our item in *Aging* 72 did not make clear the distinction between these two separate grants.

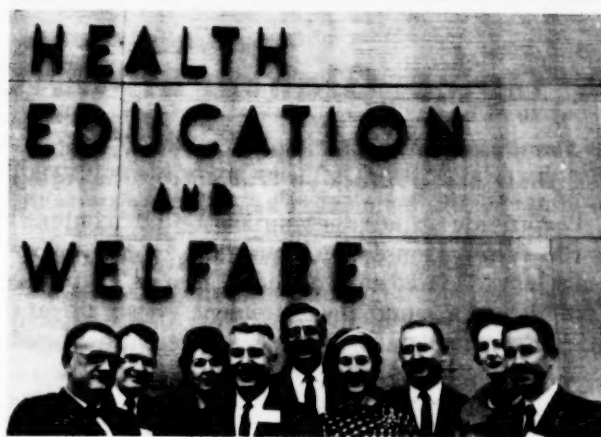
Complete information on Ford Foundation grants for the study of problems of the aging is available from the Ford Foundation, 477 Madison Ave, NYC 22.

## New NCOA Film

The National Committee on the Aging in cooperation with The National Association for Mental Health recently announced the first of a series of film programs on the theme "Preparation for the Later Years." This first film was made under a grant from The Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company of Newark, N.J., and was produced by Dynamic Films, Inc., 405 Park Ave., NYC 22.

The film, "Financial Planning," (16 mm, black and white, 30 min.) provides a general introduction to the problems of retirement with emphasis on maintaining financial independence in the later years. It depicts some of the ways in which the individual can plan retirement well in advance, thus making most of this later period of life and guarding against its pitfalls.

Cost is \$190 per print (25% reduction for non-profit groups including libraries). Preview prints (before purchase) are available from Dynamic Films.



Regional Representatives for Aging

(Related Listing, *Aging* 73, p. 19)

All nine DHEW Regional Representatives for Aging met in Washington during November and posed for *Aging's* photographer at the HEW Building main entrance: (l. to r.) H. Burton Aycock, CHARLOTTESVILLE; Donald C. Sutcliffe, SAN FRANCISCO; Miss Verna Due, CHICAGO; Stanley J. Fiorelli, NEW YORK; James C. Hunt, BOSTON; Mrs. Virginia M. Smyth, ATLANTA; William T. Van Orman, DENVER; Miss Amelia Wahl, KANSAS CITY; Clarence M. Lambricht, DALLAS.

## Required Amount of Work Is Reduced For Social Security Eligibility

(Related story: *Aging* 72, p. 4)

The 1960 amendments to the social security law reduce by about one-third the length of time a person has to work under social security to become insured for the payment of benefits to himself and his family.

Some 400,000 people became immediately eligible for cash benefits when this change was made in the law last September, including many wives, widows, and dependent husbands and widowers already at or beyond retirement age. First payments to newly eligible persons were made for the month of October.

### New Rule as It Affects Those Now 65

Under the new rule, persons reaching retirement age (65 for men, 62 for women) in 1960 need only about 3 years of work under social security instead of the 4½-5 years required by the old law. If they reach retirement age any time next year, they will need to have worked under social security for only 3¼ years instead of the 5 to 5¼ years required before the change in the law. There is, however, a minimum requirement of a year and a half of work under social security—without which no benefits can become payable.

### As It Affects Those Now 60

A man who is now 60 and plans to retire at the end of 1965 would have needed a total of about 7 years of work to draw benefits under the old law. Under the new rule he will need only 4½ years of social security employment or self-employment.

A 60-year-old woman planning retirement in 1962, needs only 3½ years of work to be eligible for social security.

*A worker who reaches retirement age (65 for men, 62 for women) or dies*

*Will need no more than this much work*

	(years)
In 1956 or earlier.....	1½
1957.....	2
1958.....	2¼
1959.....	2½
1960.....	3
1961.....	3¼
1962.....	3½
1963.....	4
1964.....	4¼
1965.....	4½
1966.....	5
1967.....	5¼
1968.....	5½
1969.....	6
1970.....	6¼
1971.....	6½
1972.....	7
1973.....	7¼
1974.....	7½
1975.....	8
1976.....	8¼
1977.....	8½
1978.....	9
1979.....	9¼
1980.....	9½
1981 or later.....	10

(To get disability insurance benefits, a worker must also have social security credit for 5 out of the 10 years just before he becomes disabled.)

"Social Security Amendments of 1960" (informational leaflet OASI-1960-1), as well as other explanatory publications, are available from any district office of the Social Security Administration.



# A Quick Glance at WHCA State Recommendations

## Summaries of Recommendations in 20 Subjects Show Broad Attack on Problems of the Aging

To provide an advance indication of "content" at the White House Conference on Aging, *Aging* has requested from each of the 20 subject Planning Committees a summary statement on significant State Recommendations which are being discussed at the 20 Sections of the Conference.

While these statements do not pretend to be complete in their coverage, and while they do not touch on topics to be presented for discussion by the delegates themselves, they *do* serve to give a glance at the total scope of the WHCA: an overview of interest in each subject is provided, and the obvious major issues are identified.

As explained in *Aging* 73, p. 1, a collation of verbatim State Recommendations in each subject was made by the Special Staff on Aging, and each delegate in each subject Section is being furnished with a copy of *all* State Recommendations made in that subject area.

### Section 1:

#### Population Trends and Social and Economic Implications

Five workgroups in this Section are considering the broad and basic philosophical concepts underlying the practical problems of the aging. Because of the nature of the subject, State recommendations could not be specific.

Throughout the reports of State conferences, however, there was repeated reference to the fundamental nature of Section 1 topics: Intrinsic to the solution of the practical problems of income maintenance, medical care, leisure time activities, participation in religious and educational programs, etc., are the issues of —

- the role and status of the older person,
- his independence, and
- problems posed by the increased mobility of our society.

### Section 2:

#### Income Maintenance

Two issues can be expected to predominate: the financing of medical costs of the aged, and the OASDI retirement test.

Of foremost importance, to judge by the attention this subject received in the State recommendations, is the problem of medical care costs. Recommendations on financing of medical costs were made by all States. One State limited its recommendations to a specific suggestion relating to welfare recipients in nursing homes. The recommendations from each of the other States dealt with the general approach to be taken in the financing of medical care; many also included

specific recommendations relating to public assistance medical care programs, and voluntary health insurance.

The retirement test under the Federal old-age, survivors, and disability insurance program is of major concern, despite a 1960 liberalization in the social security law enacted after some States had already formulated their recommendations. Some 40 States forwarded recommendations that the retirement test be liberalized or eliminated, or that consideration be given to such change. Many of the specific proposals suggested more leeway in allowable earnings than that provided by the 1960 amendment.

Many of the State recommendations for improvements in public assistance programs related to action that could be taken by States to improve their programs, rather than to Federal action.

### Section 3:

#### Impact of Inflation on Retired Citizens

The OASDI retirement test will also be a major issue in the workgroups related to the "Impact of Inflation." Many States recognized that one method of protection against inflation is through participation in employment, and therefore proposed a liberalization in the earnings which retired persons can have without loss of social security benefits.

The benefit level under OASDI is another issue that cuts across both the Sections on "Income Maintenance" and "Impact of Inflation." The interrelatedness was apparent in repeated State recommendations that the level of benefits under OASDI be brought in line with the cost of living and be adjusted when necessary.

### Section 4:

#### Employment Security and Retirement

Significant State recommendations in this subject include:

- Programs to encourage more flexible retirement systems in private industry and government.
- Expansion of educational programs designed to promote the hiring and use of workers on the basis of ability to do the job, rather than age.
- Some form of legislation (at Federal or State levels) that would prohibit age discrimination in public and private employment.
- Expansion and improvement of existing job counseling, placement, rehabilitation, and other direct services to middle-aged and older workers.
- Development by industry, labor unions, and community agencies of formal and informal programs of preparation for retirement.
- Expansion of existing training programs for those workers having to renew old skills or having to develop new ones.

Section 5:

**Health and Medical Care**

The wide interest in the health of the aging was evidenced by some 929 recommendations (exclusive of those on financing) submitted by the States. These, of course, contain many identical or similar recommendations showing the results of much work in surveying State and local needs.

Needs cited for more institutions caring for chronically ill patients included general hospitals, chronic disease hospitals, nursing homes, halfway houses, and day hospitals.

The importance of making provisions for care at home was stressed in many of the recommendations. Homemaker services, organized home care, preventive services, health education, referral services, early detection of disease, the development of positive health habits, mental health, and broad planning on a community and statewide level were advocated.

Section 6:

**Rehabilitation**

State recommendations proposed that:

- professional staffs be enlarged, more public funds be appropriated, special counseling services and refresher training courses be provided, and coordination of public and voluntary services be sought;
- a nationwide program of education be promoted to create greater job opportunities for older workers, and research to determine the types of work best suited for older persons;
- governmental agencies set a good example by hiring on the basis of ability regardless of age.

Section 7:

**Social Services**

Fifty-two States and Territories made almost 500 recommendations which outline specific social services to

(1) keep older people in their homes and in the midst of their family and community as long as possible;

(2) help those older people who need specific social services to remain in their community;

(3) materially assist older people who are away from home in institutions, foster homes, or nursing homes, to be maintained and supported by specific social services in their setting.

Many States also made recommendations for increased homemaker services.

Forty-one States indicated their concern that social services in the form of personal and family counseling through casework services be made available to older persons.

Twenty-nine States stressed that Information and Referral Services should be established to help older persons identify and use the resources of the community to meet their individual needs.

Section 11:

**Family Life, Family Relationships, and Friends**

Thirty States considered the impact of our changing times on the older person and his family relationships. Their recommendations point up the disruption of close family ties caused by the growth and mobility of our population.

Since the cumulative effect on the older person and his family of some community attitudes (reflected in law and public policy) tends to restrict employability, limit income, and impose undue strain upon filial relationships, several State recommendations show an intent to bolster the status of older people in the family and in society, to reaffirm the individual rights of older people, and to clarify the changing role of older people in the family setting.

Section 8:

**Housing**

Throughout State recommendations pertaining to housing there is acknowledgment of some special housing needs in old age, needs which are not now being met. Further, most States feel that broad as well as specific action is necessary if the supply of housing is to be brought up to a level commensurate with need and demand.

Twenty-one States recommended action to increase the general supply of housing available to old people—Federal programs being mentioned in 20 cases, and State or local community endeavor in 10 cases.

Five States urged increases in elderly housing under the Public Housing Administration, two States recommending allocation of a higher percentage of rental units for elderly occupants in public housing.

Special assistance programs, or some special consideration is thought necessary for Indians, rural families, unattached older women, non-citizens who are long-time residents, and families who are deprived because of the financial burden of supporting older parents or relatives.

Some States feel that there is need for an increase in familial responsibility in meeting the housing needs of old people—either in terms of the older remaining in the family circle, or the family making necessary arrangement for his needs.

Section 9:

**Education**

Recommendations from the States relate to education *about* the aging, *for* the aging, and education and community service *by* the aging.

Emphasis is on—

- the creation of positive attitudes toward older people;
- better coordination of community resources for education about aging and for counseling;

("QUICK GLANCE" continued on p. 10)

## A Quick Glance at State Recommendations—continued

- encouragement of adult education programs in public schools, universities, and other educational agencies;
- vocational training opportunities for older people;
- education programs for those who work with the aging;
- extension of library services for older people;
- the need for adequate financing for adult education;
- the use of older people as a resource for counselors, consultants, and research.

Special emphasis was placed on the need for research and surveys to determine the interests of older people.

All States recommended counseling programs, both pre-retirement and retirement.

### Section 10:

#### Role and Training of Professional Personnel

The State recommendations recognized implicitly and explicitly the need for knowledge of the aging processes and the characteristics of older people by all personnel who work with members of the upper age group. Many aspects of utilization and training of professional personnel were suggested. Specific roles were identified largely by means of naming professions in which additional personnel and training are needed.

On the basis of these recommendations, some of the specific and significant issues are:

- (1) the current and future role of each discipline in working with the aging;
- (2) the desirable levels of training to fill these roles competently;
- (3) how such training can be provided and how such training programs can be organized.

### Section 12:

#### Free Time Activities: Recreation, Voluntary Services, Citizenship Participation

The States gave recognition to a broad range of free-time activities which are important for the health, happiness and creative living of the aging population, including recreation in its broadest sense, service to others, and participation in all appropriate community projects and services.

Recommendations from 31 States emphasized the need for greatly extended programs sponsored by public agencies, civic organizations, service clubs, churches, women's groups, voluntary welfare organizations, educational institutions, libraries, hospitals, nursing homes, and homes for the aged.

Such programs should include day centers, clubs, social activities, outings, travel, camping, library service, informal education programs, volunteer service by older people to their contemporaries and

other age groups, active participation in community affairs, and central counseling, referral and information services.

### Section 13:

#### Religion

Forty-five States recommended in different ways that churches and synagogues sponsor activities or services for the aging including recreational activities, transportation of the elderly, friendly visits to homes and institutions, and sacred services for the home-bound or bedridden. Churches were urged to participate in community programs for the aging, and were reminded of the need to construct new facilities.

Many of the States also recommended that fuller use be made of the contribution the aging themselves have to offer, that their talents be developed and utilized for their own therapy, and that they find meaningful roles in the life of the congregation.

The importance of the local congregation in affecting attitudes toward the aging was recognized.

### Sections 14 and 15:

#### Medical and Biological Research in Gerontology

State recommendations tend to be concerned with those changes with age which appear to cause the greatest amount of incapacitation.

For example, many of the State recommendations focused on the need for more intensive research on the causes of blood vessel, nerve, and bone deterioration with age. A number of States emphasized, in addition, the need for more study of susceptibility to infection in relation to age changes, and the importance of learning more about aging of dental structures.

General recommendations included the importance of

- (1) finding more effective means by which the recent results of research can be put rapidly into the hands of practitioners;
- (2) developing additional further basic studies of the biologic process of aging;
- (3) improving the means for detecting incipient chronic disease;
- (4) establishing additional interdisciplinary large-scale research programs in aging.

### Section 16:

#### Research in Gerontology: Psychological and Social Sciences

All of the States, whether or not they reported specific recommendations for psychological and social science research, recognized the vital importance of research findings for understanding, proper evaluation, and program planning.

Naturally, therefore, a majority of the States



made one or more recommendations concerning the support and organization of research, including such aspects as financing, research facilities, qualified research personnel, clearinghouse and communication functions, and the responsibility for the development of research programs.

In addition, there were numerous specific recommendations concerning research

—in aging as a personal phenomenon (changes in physical and mental characteristics, performance, learning ability, and motivation),

—in aging as a social and societal phenomenon (behavior, attitudes, value systems, adjustments, and relationships), and

—in such special areas as criteria for retirement, definition of meaningful activities, income, assets, expenditures, employment; and the interrelationship between physical, psychological, economic, and social factors and the settings in which older people live.

#### Section 17:

##### Local Community Organization

Over 40 States and Territories recommended the establishment of county and/or community committees on aging.

Twenty-five recommended that Committees on Aging should be coordinating and planning bodies for all services to older people. Five States recommended broad representation of citizen groups, lay and professional leaders, and older citizens themselves, on Committees on Aging.

Six States recommended that Federal and State funds be made available for local community organizations. The use of private funds was also recommended.

Approximately 15 States recommended establishment of referral and information centers. Ten States recommended establishment of activity centers.

#### Section 18:

##### State Organization

State recommendations recognized the—

(1) heavy involvement of State government in programs affecting older persons;

(2) major services of State government departments;

(3) complex of services rendered by such departments;

(4) problems of conflict, coordination, and communication;

and they indicated need for a structure which focuses on the interests of the aging from a *clientele* point of view.

Some 44 States favored creation of a permanent State committee or agency on aging (with status deriving from official government action) to pro-

vide statewide leadership in programs for the aging by

(1) coordinating plans, policies, and activities of the State government departments,

(2) creating public awareness and understanding of the needs and potentials of older persons, and

(3) acting as a clearinghouse for the gathering and dissemination of information to individuals and agencies concerning plans, services and activities.

Several recommendations were made that State commissions should stimulate, guide, and provide technical assistance to the localities in the organization of community councils or units on aging, and in the local planning and conduct of services, activities, and projects.

#### Section 19:

##### National Voluntary Services and Service Organizations

There were few recommendations from the States in this subject.

The States recognized that voluntary organizations have varied and continuing services and that in order to keep abreast of new developments study, expansion, and change are necessary.

One interesting State recommendation seeks the establishment of a national voluntary service organization concerned with all phases of life of the senior citizen. A discussion of how such an organization will be set up, under what auspices, and its relationship to State Committees on Aging, is sure to bring out many differing points of view.

#### Section 20:

##### Federal Organizations and Programs

Twenty-two States transmitted recommendations in this category.

The subjects appearing most often are

- the establishment of a bureau or office of aging;

- increasing present informational and advisory services, and adding new services;

- providing grants to States for post-Conference activity;

- urging Congressional review of Conference recommendations.

#### CORRECTION

A "PUBLICATION" item in *Aging* 72, p. 11, about a new PHA flyer, "How To Obtain Low-Rent Housing for Elderly Persons," mistakenly referred to a listing of "PHS" regional offices.

This flyer was issued by the Public Housing Administration, and the reference, of course, was to PHA regional offices.

We regret the error.

No. 74

# Aging

December 1960

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

ARTHUR S. FLEMMING, Secretary

Published monthly by the Special Staff on Aging to share and exchange information about programs, activities, and publications among interested individuals, agencies, and organizations.

Use of funds for printing this publication has been approved by the Director of the Bureau of the Budget August 22, 1960.

Subscriptions (\$1 for 12 issues, 50¢ additional for foreign mailing, or 10¢ for single copies) should be addressed to Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D.C.

All other communications may be sent directly to Editor of *Aging*, U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Washington 25, D.C.

## NEWS ITEMS

**Mrs. Mary Cleverley**, internationally known spokesman in the field of housing for the elderly, has been appointed Assistant Public Housing Commissioner on Housing for the Elderly.

Upon request, Mrs. Cleverley may be available to address interested local citizen, civic, business, and professional groups, to explain the PHA programs for sheltering low-income elderly persons. She is empowered to cut across agency channels to expedite such programs.

The new Assistant Commissioner transferred to her new post with the U.S. Public Housing Administration from the Office of the Administrator of the Housing and Home Finance Agency where she had been a staff specialist in her field. Her address at PHA is Longfellow Bldg., Washington 25, D.C.



**Dr. Karl Menninger**, of the Menninger Clinic in Topeka, Kansas, will be the 1961 main speaker on "Recreation in Hospitals" at the 5th **Southern Regional Institute on Recreation in Hospitals**, to be held at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill next April 20-22.

**Dr. Harold D. Meyer**, chairman of the recreation curriculum in the University, announced the meeting as one that will bring recreation specialists from many places over the nation, most of them professional recreators from public and private hospitals. The Institute is sponsored by the Recreation Curriculum of the University of North Carolina; North Carolina Recreation Commission; North Carolina Recreation Society; Hospital Section of the American Recreation Society; National Recreation Association; National Association of Recreational Therapists; American Red Cross; Athletic Institute; and the Veterans Administration.



WHITE HOUSE  
—CONFERENCE ON AGING—  
—JANUARY 9-12, 1961—

This special postal cancellation mark was put in use at the Washington, D.C. Post Office, December 1.

Arrangements also have been made by the Special Staff on Aging to provide die hubs for this special cancellation at the main post offices in Chicago and San Francisco. Community groups throughout the country were asked to sponsor its local use.



**Montclair, New Jersey**, has a new project for older people called "The Senior Citizens Placement Bureau." This project was started and is financed by the Junior League of Montclair, and co-sponsored by the Community Welfare Council.

It provides free employment service for people over 60 in both paid part-time and "spot" jobs in business and homes as well as volunteer jobs in agencies. Many applicants have registered and been counseled and some placements have been made. The Bureau is currently open part-time, staffed by qualified volunteers, but plans to expand to five mornings a week, with paid professional help.



The Board of Directors of the Home for the Jewish Aged in Philadelphia (5301 Old York Rd, Philadelphia 41) announced in October the formation of a new corporation known as the **Gerontological Institute**. This calls for the reorganization of what was formerly the Research Department of the Home, where research has been conducted for the past seven years.

The new Institute has a staff of seven professionals and is conducting studies in protein metabolism, energy metabolism, tumor inhibition, and a variety of other biochemical studies. The Board of Directors of the Home serves as the Board for the newly formed Institute.



*We—The Magazine of Creative Maturity* and *The 65 Magazine* have both merged with *Modern Maturity*, and have ceased independent issues, according to the American Association of Retired Persons. All subscribers to these two magazines will be receiving *Modern Maturity*, published by **AARP**, Suite 419, Dupont Circle Bldg., Washington 6, D.C.

"Truth Keeps Its Youth"

**Miss Jean M. Maxwell**, former director of the National Committee on the Aging's project on Standards for Centers and Club Programs for Older People, has been appointed to the regular staff of NCOA (345 E 46 St, NYC 17) as Consultant on Social, Educational and Recreational Programs.

She will be concerned with helping organizations and communities promote and expand social, educational, and recreational opportunities for older persons.

Miss Maxwell's appointment was effective September, following completion of the Centers and Clubs project. A report on that project is being published.



During the absence due to illness of WHCA Technical Director Clyde Gleason, **Mr. Earl T. Klein** has been serving as acting Technical Director for "Employment Security and Retirement." Mr. Klein is Coordinator for the Older Workers Program in the U.S. Department of Labor.



**Dr. Robert S. Waldrop** was recently appointed WHCA Technical Director for "Population Trends and Social and Economic Implications," relieving Clark Tibbitts who has taken on other responsibilities.

Dr. Waldrop, a native of Sherman, Texas, was educated at the University of Oklahoma, University of Chicago, and took his doctor's degree in Psychology at the University of Michigan.

He was Director, Veterans Service Bureau, University of Michigan, 1946 to 1948, and Dean of Students and Associate Professor of Psychology at Vanderbilt University until 1952 when he accepted his present position as Director, Vocational Counseling Staff, Department of Medicine and Surgery, Veterans Administration.



**Roland H. Spaulding, Ph. D.**, has been appointed WHCA Technical Director for Rehabilitation in DHEW's Office of Vocational Rehabilitation. He replaces Mr. Joseph M. LaRocca, who has been appointed OVR's Chief Consultant on International Activities. Mr. LaRocca will be available as a consultant on aging until after the White House Conference.

Dr. Spaulding and George Deaver, M.D., were the organizers in 1941 of the New York University School of Education curriculums for the training of vocational rehabilitation personnel. Dr. Spaulding directed these until his retirement in 1960. He was also the coordinator of the OVR Rehabilitation Counselor Training Program.



### WHCA Model Home For The Elderly

This model home was built for the White House Conference to focus national attention on the need for specialized housing for the elderly, under co-sponsorship of the Douglas Fir Plywood Association and the American Association of Retired Persons—National Retired Teachers Association.

Built with some of the best available research on housing for the elderly, this "demonstration project" for WHCA delegates (who are being asked to fill out evaluation questionnaires at the site), was erected at 17 and M Streets NW., in downtown Washington. It is designed to stimulate builders and developers nationwide, and to acquaint them with needs and potentials for retirement housing.

Planned to sell for approximately \$10,000 (including land), it is a 2-bedroom unit with 880 square feet of living space. It can be adapted for multiple-unit apartment type projects as well as single family dwellings.

Further information: AARP-NRTA, Suite 419, Dupont Circle Building, Washington 6.

The greatest need is housing for single elderly. And when one partner in a double unit dies, there must be single units into which we can move the remaining partner. Most of these people want to live alone and do their own cooking.

. . . The old folks of the future will be no strangers. They will be ourselves.

*From an article entitled "Old People BELONG in the Community," by a member of the Windsor, Ontario, Community Welfare Council; p. 4-5 of the November 1960 issue of CANADA'S HEALTH & WELFARE, published by the Information Services Division, Department of National Health and Welfare, Ottawa.*



## PUBLICATIONS

**"The Positive Health of Older People"** has just been published as a distillation of discussions at the 1960 National Health Forum. Forum participants were told by U.S. Surgeon General Leroy Burney, in his formal address, that "The principles enunciated and discussed here will unquestionably have a profound influence on the thinking at the White House Conference on Aging in the area of health care."

This new 144-page paperback book quotes authorities in medicine, research, sociology, economics, housing, insurance, personnel administration, psychiatry, nursing, institutional care, social work, nutrition, psychology, and volunteer service. It offers background material for WHCA participants in the following subjects: *perspectives of a healthy maturity, investigation and discovery in physical aging, investigation and discovery in mental and emotional health, health services for the older person, factors affecting health, stimulation of local cooperative action, and the outlook for the future.*

Copies are available @ \$2.25 from the National Health Council, 1790 Broadway, NYC 19.

☆

The Health and Welfare Council of the National Capitol Area, 1101 M Street, NW., Washington 5, DC, will honor requests for single free copies of **"How to Sponsor a Group Program for the Aging,"** (Publication No. 8). This handy 20-page booklet is designed to help those who want to take the "first steps" in arranging wholesome and worthwhile programs for older groups.

☆

A significant new study on **"Filial Responsibility in the Modern American Family,"** by Alvin L. Schorr, has been published by the Division of Program Research of the Social Security Administration. It is available @ 25¢ from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D.C.

This 45-page evaluation of current practice of filial responsibility in the United States (and the relationship to it of social security programs) is "one of the first fruits" of the establishment of a Family Life Specialist in the Social Security Administration, according to Social Security Commissioner Mitchell's foreword:

"I am sure that scholars and practitioners, in and out of social welfare, will find this study interesting. In the course of setting different disciplines side by side, it develops fresh insights from each of them. It brings together material not formerly available in one work."

**"Population and Labor Force Projections for the United States, 1960-75"** (Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D.C.; 1959; 56 pp.; 40¢), issued as Bulletin No. 1242 of the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, presents population and labor force projections to 1975, and a detailed description of the method used in preparing them.

Principal findings of this study are:

(1) The population of the United States will probably reach about 226 million by 1975.

(2) Between 1955 and 1965, the labor force in this country is expected to increase by 11 million, assuming favorable economic conditions prevail.

(3) Between 1965 and 1975, the labor force is expected to increase by 15 million persons.

(4) The addition of large numbers of young people and married women to the labor force will mean an unusually large increase in the number of part-time workers.

☆

A three-page listing of 81 **"Selected Government Publications Relating to the Aged and the Aging"** is available free from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D.C.

Earlier this year, when it was issued, this same listing was mailed by the Superintendent of Documents to most subscribers of *Aging*. It includes cost and availability information on most Federal publications of interest to our readers.

☆

**"Nutrition & Food Service in Nursing Homes and Homes for the Aged"** is a valuable new annotated bibliography, prepared for nutritionists, dietitians, nurses, and other personnel working toward improving food service to residents of nursing homes, and homes for the aged.

References were selected to provide leads to information on adequate nutrition and satisfying diets for the health and comfort of the elderly and chronically ill. Special items, recommended for reading by nursing home "nonprofessional" personnel, are included.

Single free copies are available from Public Inquiries Branch, PHS, DHEW, Washington 25, D.C. Ask for PHS Publication No. 786.

☆

Single free copies are available from the Public Inquiries Branch, Public Health Service, DHEW, Washington 25, D.C., of a new PHS booklet (No. 690), **"Treating Cancer."**

It answers some of the most common questions asked about surgery, radiation, and chemotherapy, and their uses against cancer. It is written in lay language. A short bibliography is included.

Although at present, surgery and radiation are the only methods of treatment that can cure cancer, the use of chemotherapy holds much promise.

**"Training for Friendly Visiting"** is available @ 50¢ from the Volunteer Bureau, Welfare Council of Metropolitan Chicago, 123 W. Madison St., Chicago 2.

This interesting 33-page (mimeographed) collection of papers was assembled for a 1958 Training Course for Friendly Visitors. Subjects include Attitudes in Friendly Visiting, Friendly Visiting with Blind Persons, The Friendly Visitor in Public Assistance, and The Emotional Needs of Older Persons.

☆

**"Nutritive Value of Foods"** is a new (September 1960) 30-page pamphlet available from the Office of Information, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C.

It shows, in tabular form, the food values of about 500 commonly used foods in this country. The values are expressed not only in percent of water, number of calories, amount of fat, carbohydrate, calcium, iron, and vitamins, but selected fatty acids are also indicated.

A second table is intended as a guide to the amount of raw meat necessary for serving a given amount of cooked meat.

Ask for Home and Garden Bulletin No. 72. Single copies are free.

☆

The Housing Act of 1959 added Section 232 to the National Housing Act. This new section authorized the Federal Housing Administration to insure mortgages on qualified proprietary nursing homes.

Two new and important informational pamphlets have been released by the FHA to explain Section 232:

(1) FHA No. 696, **"FHA Notes on NURSING-HOME MORTGAGE INSURANCE"** is a 19-page booklet which clearly outlines the mortgage insurance program, explains what is meant by a "Nursing Home," and describes the regulations and procedures which sponsors need to know. A list of all FHA Insuring Offices is included.

(2) FHA No. 334, **"Minimum Property Standards for Nursing Homes"** is a 34-page listing of standards for Nursing Homes which have been adopted to provide a uniform basis of acceptability for the physical security of insured mortgages on Nursing Home properties. The standards range from the architectural drawings and sketches, to rehabilitation projects, and include site planning, building planning, construction, mechanical equipment, etc.

Free single copies of these FHA publications may be obtained from Mr. C. William Cardin, Director of Public Information, FHA, 811 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington 25, D.C.

Single free copies of **"Homemaker Services for the Aged in North Carolina"** are available from the State Board of Public Welfare, P.O. Box 2599, Raleigh, N.C. Requests should be made on organizational letterhead; copies are intended for professional persons only.

This 12-page booklet (Information Bulletin No. 30) explains what Homemaker Service is, how an aged person obtains such service, what a homemaker can and cannot do, etc. The role of a case-worker in Homemaker Service is described. A condensation of six case studies is included.

This is a forward-looking program development which bears close study by all other States.

☆

Although **"Adult Education in American Education Week, November 6-12, 1960"** has been held, single free copies of an informative booklet prepared for this event are still available from the Publications Inquiry Unit, Office of Education, DHEW, Washington 25, D.C.

This 21-page booklet presents facts, resources, and program ideas for local planners who wish to emphasize opportunities for "Lifelong Learning" which may be useful in appraising the present school services for adults, and in planning improvements. A brief bibliography for adult educators is included.

Quantity copies are available @ \$10 per 100 from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D.C.

☆

A comprehensive article on **"The Long-Term Rehabilitation Service of St. Louis Chronic Hospital Program for the Aged"** shows the results of a two-year study of 267 patients in a long-term rehabilitation ward.

The results are presented in terms of functional improvement. The value of rehabilitation efforts over a prolonged period of time is stressed in the case of permanently institutionalized patients.

See pages 210-216 of the March 1960 *Journal of The American Geriatric Society* (\$10 a year, single copy \$1.25; published for the AGS by The Williams & Wilkins Co., 428 E. Preston St., Baltimore 2).

☆

**"Specialized Services for the Aging,"** in the March 1960 *Catholic Charities Review* (\$1 a year, National Conference of Catholic Charities and The Society of St. Vincent De Paul, 1346 Connecticut Ave., NW., Washington 6, D.C.) is the story of "Sheltering Arms," a United Fund facility in Houston and Harris County, Texas, as told by Katherine Dugger, Supervisor of Homemaker Services at "Sheltering Arms."

(PUBLICATIONS continued on p. 16)

## PUBLICATIONS—continued

The November 1960 *Together* (The Midmonth Magazine for Methodist Families published by the Methodist Publishing House, 201 Eighth Ave S, Nashville 3; \$4 a year, price for this special single issue \$1) is a very special 120-page "Sunset Issue" with many illustrations, color plates, and interesting articles on a wide variety of topics in the field of aging.

Included among the titles are:

- "Government Cannot Enact Happiness" by George H. Gallup.
- "How To Avoid A Heart Attack" by Paul Dudley White.
- "Compulsory Retirement At A Fixed Age?" a debate by George E. Johnson and Robert J. Havighurst.
- "Living Those Sunset Years" by Helen Keller.
- "Why We Live Longer" by Louis I. Dublin.
- "A Room For Grandma" by Parker B. Lusk.
- "New Ideas In Old Folks' Homes" by Herman B. Teeter.

and many more.

☆

"A Guide to Books on Recreation," Part II of the monthly magazine *Recreation* for September 1960 (Vol. 53, No. 7), will be sent free upon request on organizational letterhead made to the National Recreation Association, 8 W. 8th St., N.Y.C. 11.

This annual edition of a guide, already well-known as AGBOR, has listings from 96 publishers, with 202 new titles since the 1959-1960 edition. Listings are grouped by activity, such as "Drama," "Facilities," "Hobbies," "Music," and "Travel."

☆

The November 1960 issue of *Council Woman* (National Council of Jewish Women, Inc., 1 W. 47 St., N.Y.C. 36; single copy 10¢) features an article on page 8 by Senator Pat McNamara (D-Mich.): "We Don't Want Pity! Across the Country the Aging Asked the Investigators For A Chance to Help Themselves."

☆

"Federal Taxes on Benefits from Your Retirement System," first published in December 1958, is now in its third edition. This 45-page booklet explains and illustrates how retired taxpayers can properly and most advantageously fill out their Federal income tax returns.

The third edition includes changes made during the summer of 1960 in the taxation of benefits received by those retired for disability before reaching normal retirement age. The new rules are more generous to disabled taxpayers.

This booklet, by Madaline Kinter Remmlein, is available @ \$1 from the Interstate Printers and Publishers, Inc., Jackson at Van Buren, Danville, Ill.



WHCA Officials from Connecticut, Florida, Minnesota:

Shown at the November 16 meeting of Governor's Designees in Washington, D.C., are (l. to r.) Donald P. Kent, Director of the Institute of Gerontology at the University of Connecticut, former U.S. Senator Harry P. Cain who is now a practicing attorney in Miami, and Arnold M. Rose, sociologist at the University of Minnesota.

The lead article in the *Kansas Business Review* for August 1960 (Vol. 13, No. 8), "Kansas Studies the Problems of Aging," was written by Frank T. Stockton, Dean Emeritus of the School of Business and of University Extension at the University of Kansas.

Free copies are available from Mr. Edward G. Nelson, Director, Center for Research in Business, Lawrence, Kans.

☆

A short (8 pp.) mimeograph "Manual for Aiding District and Local Community Groups to study . . . and Plan for . . . the Aging" has many fine suggestions for setting up a conference on aging, and provides guidelines for organization, coordination, and preparation of reports.

Single free copies are available from Chairman, State of Colorado White House Conference on Aging, Room 238, State Capitol Bldg., Denver.

☆

"The Congregation and Its Older Members," by Reverend Arthur Rismiller, is a booklet to help leaders and workers in churches provide a climate of well being for older people. Many older people, faced with dwindling resources, can be helped by continued integration into the program and the fellowship of the church.

The writer, chaplain in a geriatric hospital and coordinator of programs for the aging in churches, sees a congregation as a tremendous therapeutic body as it fully embraces the aging with their needs. The booklet, giving understanding of the basic needs of older people and what can happen when those needs are not met, encourages churches to make use of various approaches to appropriate action.

Copies are available @ 50¢ from Lutheran Welfare League of Central Ohio, 106 S. Gift St., Columbus 22.



# New Independent National Council on the Aging

This article is based on information from The National Committee on the Aging, of The National Social Welfare Assembly, 345 E 46 St., NYC 17.

G. Warfield Hobbs, chairman of The National Committee on the Aging, and Robert E. Bondy, director of The National Social Welfare Assembly, announced in October the formation of The National Council on the Aging, a nonprofit national organization to serve the needs of older persons.

## Formally Launched January 1

The Council, which is being formally launched on January 1, grows out of The National Committee on the Aging which has been a standing committee of the National Social Welfare Assembly since 1950. "Ten years of experience," Mr. Bondy said, "have indicated the need for this type of organization. Both the scope of activities and the functions being performed by The Committee strongly suggest that these activities can best be carried forward as a separate organization not under the aegis of The Assembly."

The Committee, which will become The Council, has received two appropriations from the Ford Foundation—the first for \$500,000 in 1956, the second for \$750,000 in 1959. The Council will become an affiliate organization of The Assembly.

In making the joint announcement, Mr. Hobbs, a former vice-president of The First National City Bank of New York and currently chairman of the Board of Olympia, Inc., said: "In my opinion the implications of a rapidly expanding older population are of critical importance to the entire country and particularly to businessmen. As a businessman, I believe we should assume some responsibility in helping to seek sound answers to the complex problems of an aging population based on objective inquiry and sound information."

## NCOA Membership Retained

The announcement of the new national organization came at the 10th Anniversary Annual Meeting of NCOA on October 19.

According to the constitution and by-laws presented at the Annual Meeting, the present members of The National Committee on the Aging will become the initial members of The Council. Provision is made, through a nominating committee, to insure a balanced representation—both geographically and professionally.

The Council will represent the many areas concerned with older persons: business and industry, organized labor, government, the health professions, education, housing, research, the clergy, social work and local communities.

## Aims of the New Council

The Council's aims include the stimulation of constructive action for meeting the needs of older persons and providing opportunities for their continued independence and constructive participation in the life of the community.

Encouragement and assistance will be given to industry, labor, welfare groups, government agencies, old age homes, colleges, hospitals, religious groups and others interested in older persons to expand their efforts in the field.

The Council, following the program of The National Committee on the Aging, will also provide information and consultation services, maintain a comprehensive library and publish materials on facilities and services for the aging.

## New England Gerontological Association

This item was submitted from the Council for the Aging, Room 27, State House, Boston 33, Mass.

The New England Conference on Aging, sponsored in Woodstock, Vt., by the New England Gerontological Association, was designed to strengthen the contributions of New England States at the WHCA.

Recommendations to the WHCA in four major areas were formulated: *Health & Medical Care and Rehabilitation, Income Maintenance and Employment, Leisure Time Activities, and Living Arrangements.*

## New Officers Elected

At a business meeting, the Association elected the following officers:

**President:** Mrs. Robert T. Bushnell, Brookline, Mass.; Field Representative of the Massachusetts Council for the Aging, and member of the WHCA National Advisory Committee.

**First Vice President:** John Barclay, Livermore Falls, Me.; Governor's Committee on Aging, and member of the WHCA National Advisory Committee.

**Second Vice President:** Miss A. Jean McLeod, Concord, N.H.; Bureau of Hospital Services, Department of Public Health.

**Secretary:** Dr. Donald Kent, Storrs, Conn.; Governor's Designee, and Professor of Gerontology at the University of Connecticut.

**Treasurer:** Miss Margaret Whittlesey, Williston, Vt.; General Chairman of the New England Conference.

The New England Gerontological Association was formed to promote and advance scientific study of the aging processes in the six-State region. Membership is open to all who have a professional concern in the fields of geriatrics and social gerontology.

## The Gerontological Society, Inc.

By Mrs. Marjorie Adler, Administrative Secretary, Gerontological Society, Inc., 660 S. Kingshighway Blvd., St. Louis 10.

The Gerontological Society is a nonprofit national organization, founded in 1945, for improving the well-being of older people by promoting scientific study of the aging process, by publishing information about aging, and by bringing together all groups interested in older people. A reprint covering the history of the Society through 1957 is available upon request.

### A New Quarterly Journal

A new quarterly journal, *The Gerontologist*, edited by Dr. Oscar J. Kaplan, which will be sent to all members of the Society, affiliates, and to subscribers of the *Journal of Gerontology*, will appear early in 1961. It will carry articles in the field of aging—medical care, recreation, housing, social welfare, employment, and other articles designed to keep readers abreast of new developments in gerontology. In addition, invited contributors will review the current status and new developments in research in biological, medical, and behavioral sciences.

The present *Newsletter* will be discontinued with the December 1960, issue.

The *Journal of Gerontology*, edited by Dr. John E. Kirk, will continue to publish only research papers. A subscription to both journals is \$12.50, to *The Gerontologist* alone, \$5. Back issues of the *Journal of Gerontology* are available.

### Membership

Membership in the Society is divided into two divisions, Professional and General.

The Professional Division is subdivided into four Sections: *Biological Sciences*, *Clinical Medicine*, *Psychological and Social Sciences*, and *Social Welfare*.

To be eligible for membership in the Society, an applicant must be interested in and sympathetic with its purposes. Fellowship status may be granted to members of the Society who have distinguished themselves in the field of gerontology. Various State and regional organizations are associated with this Society, either as affiliate organizations or as local chapters.

### Affiliate Organizations Encouraged

The Committee on Affiliate Organizations and Local Chapters was encouraged by the Council to be active in inviting additional organizations to affiliate with the Society, and it was considered by the Council that the establishment of a Council of State and Regional Organizations might be a useful possibility.

## WHCA Participation

The Society was allotted five representatives to the White House Conference on Aging:

Dr. Albert L. Lansing (Chairman).  
Dr. Morris Rockstein.  
Dr. Joseph T. Freeman.  
Dr. Oscar J. Kaplan.  
Mr. Walter M. Beattie, Jr.

A statement containing six recommendations compiled by these representatives, and approved by the Council of the Society, was published in the September issue of the *Newsletter*. A limited number of reprints is available upon request.

### 1961 Annual Meeting Scheduled

The Fourteenth Annual Scientific Meeting of the Society, which is open to non-members as well as members of the Society, will be held at the Penn-Sheraton Hotel in Pittsburgh, November 9-11, 1961. The deadline for receipt of abstracts of papers is July 1, and information about where the abstracts for the Professional and General Divisions should be sent may be obtained from our office.

## Employment Security Review Special Issue on Aging

This article was prepared for *Aging* by the Bureau of Employment Security, U.S. Department of Labor.

"Ability is Ageless: Serving The Over-40 Worker" is the theme-title of the November 1960 *Employment Security Review*, published by the Bureau of Employment Security. This is the third special issue devoted exclusively to serving the over-40 worker.

Articles by Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell, by DHEW's Director of the Special Staff on Aging Robert H. Grant, and by Federal Council on Aging Executive Director Warren Roudebush, as well as by representatives of a number of State employment security agencies, are featured.

Secretary Mitchell stresses that the older worker program must be one of action, and that action is needed to remove from our minds today's incorrect image of age.

The articles from State employment security agencies describe actions in behalf of over-40 persons: effective publicity campaigns, job clinics for over-40 applicants, earning opportunities forums, biennial State conferences on aging, job development, and a four-sided program of education, placement, law enforcement, and retraining.

The *Employment Security Review* may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D.C., @ \$2 a year (75¢ additional for foreign mailing), single copies 20¢.

## California:

### Japanese American Citizens League Makes Special Study of Aging

By George Nakamura, Field Representative, Social Security Administration, 836 S. Figueroa St., Los Angeles 17.

The problems of our aging citizens of Japanese ancestry were probed by a group of leaders in Los Angeles on September 24 under the auspices of the Japanese American Citizens League.

Mr. Frank F. Chuman, National President of the JACL, explained that the purpose of this meeting was

- to find out what are the problems of the aging in the Japanese community;
- whether these problems are any different from those of our other citizens; and
- to establish if any differences might require action or alleviation.

He pointed out that the JACL is dedicated to making "Better Americans in a Greater America," and that any work the organization does towards the national problems of the aging, therefore, was in keeping with its own purpose.

#### No Agenda Topics, No Time Limit

The meeting was unique in that there were no specific topics on the agenda, and discussion on any one subject was not restricted by time.

Those attending all sat around a table. As a topic was brought up for discussion, the chairman called on his resource people for background, and then a general discussion followed. Among the resource people were representatives of the—

*California State Department of Employment,  
Japanese Christian Church Federation,  
International Institute,  
Bureau of Old-Age and Survivors Insurance,  
Welfare Planning Council, Los Angeles Area,  
Japanese Maryknoll Mission,  
Japanese Children's Home,  
Buddhist Church,  
Veterans Administration,  
the medical profession,  
operators of homes for the aged,  
newspaper editors and publishers, and  
the legal profession.*

#### Many Similarities to Other Groups

Many of the conclusions were the same as those of other groups. For instance, it was agreed that

there is no definite correlation between physical age and chronological age, and that a person between 60 and 70 is not necessarily unfit to continue vigorous and worthwhile employment and activity.

The greatest concern was about the drastic financial drain in the event of a prolonged illness or personal injury. And it was the feeling of the conference that an important factor for the welfare of the senior citizens was a recreational center where they could freely come and go to partake of recreation, hobbies, or other worthwhile educational programs.

#### But Some Distinguishing Characteristics

On the other hand, some facts were brought out to distinguish this group from others.

Because the first wave of immigration from Japan occurred in the period 1895-1910, the average age of many male Japanese-American senior citizens is now about 70, and many females slightly over 65. The average age of the children of these senior citizens is approximately 38. These sons and daughters seem to have a deep sense of personal responsibility and obligation to their parents. In most cases, regardless of individual and psychological family tensions, this pattern of responsibility is widespread and prevalent.

The result has been a considerable relief of the economic pressure on those senior citizens who would otherwise have to subsist on social security benefits and government assistance.

#### Single Older Men and Women

It is conservatively estimated that the number of single Japanese senior citizens in the Los Angeles area is close to 750. There was a general feeling that those living alone did not particularly want the cooperative or dormitory type of living in boarding houses which means a sharing of living quarters by two or more persons. A wish for individual privacy was expressed by all of these single senior citizens.

Some of the boarding house residents living on incomes of \$83 to \$105 per month felt that the \$25 monthly rent in available low-rental units did not provide enough margin of income for other necessities beyond housing.

#### JACL Study of Aging To Continue

It was unanimously agreed that this study of the needs of our senior citizens of Japanese ancestry should be continued, and that the results would be coordinated with those of the California Governor's Conference on Aging, for the White House Conference on Aging.



## Elderly Housing Loans Launched For Detroit, Menlo Park Projects

This item is adapted from the November 1960 *Journal of Housing*, official publication of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials, 1313 E. 60th St., Chicago 13; \$5 a year, single copy 50¢.

Approval has been granted by the Housing and Home Finance Agency for the first two loans under the new program to stimulate construction of housing for the elderly by making direct loans to nonprofit organizations wishing to sponsor such projects.

Response has been lively to the "experimental" program, which was authorized by the Housing Act of 1959 but not activated until July when a \$20,000,000 appropriation was signed into law by the President.

By early October, HHFA's Division of Housing for the Elderly was busy reviewing 14 full applications, 43 preliminary applications, and over 1100 inquiries.

### Kundig Center, Detroit

The first loan commitment was granted October 12 to Kundig Center, Inc., Archdiocese of Detroit, for \$135,850 to build a two-story, 25-unit masonry structure near downtown.

Kundig Center, which operates on a nonsectarian basis, serves about 80 oldsters who live in single-room lodgings nearby by providing meals and social and hobby facilities for \$40 per month.

Expected to be complete by mid-1961, the new

building will take 25 of these oldtimers out of substandard housing and into simple but new and modern living quarters.

### Peninsular Volunteers, Menlo Park

Just one week later, approval for a \$280,000 loan went to Peninsula Volunteer Properties, Inc., of Menlo Park, San Mateo County, California, the same group that built Little House, a recreation center for oldsters.

As in Detroit, the Menlo Park project will be closely involved with a center located just two blocks away, and will be near movies, shopping, and other facilities of downtown. The two story apartment building will offer 30 furnished units to house 54 oldtimers—even before the loan application was approved, 97 senior citizens had applied for occupancy.

Apartments, which will all contain kitchens and bathroom, will be of three types: six efficiency units with 300 square feet to rent to single oldsters for \$65; 16 larger efficiencies for couples, at \$80; and eight one-bedroom units, with separate dressing room, to rent to couples at \$100.

### "Bold and Imaginative Approach"

Meanwhile, HHFA Administrator Norman P. Mason is encouraging a "bold and imaginative approach in designs and materials." Deviations from Federal Housing Administration standards will be considered on individual merit, with an eye toward progressive and imaginative site and building planning.

## Retirees Work for UN Overseas

This article is based on information requested from the Public Information Office of the United Nations, New York, N.Y.

The United Nations sends a great many older people abroad under its technical assistance programme. In fact, the median age of the experts selected for these temporary assignments in the less-developed countries is around 55. People who have retired from successful professional careers are constantly in demand.

The United Nations, however, can only fill requests for assistance specifically asked for by the less-developed countries. Most of these requests call for a highly specialized technical knowledge acquired over a long period of time in a certain field.

The UN specialists, moreover, are usually asked to advise on some aspect of a technical problem rather than to undertake operational responsibilities. Thus, in social welfare, the UN often provides experts to advise on the training courses of social workers or, in public administration, in the setting up of public administration institutes. In the industrial field or the field of natural resources

development, the emphasis is on feasibility studies and planning rather than construction or design.

Furthermore, most of these highly specialized assignments do not repeat themselves, so it is very difficult to say at any given time what the prospects may be of a request in a certain specialized technical field. The United Nations does, however, circulate to a number of government agencies and research institutes the requests it receives from the less-developed countries.

Salaries range up to \$12,500 annually, plus reimbursement of income tax, and certain allowances. On a year's assignment, the expert can take his wife.

Living conditions are generally quite different from those to which one is accustomed in the more advanced countries. There has to be a real desire for adventure and for making a positive contribution to compensate for the physical and other discomforts in this kind of assignment.

Those who are interested might wish to submit resumés to the Office of Personnel, Technical Assistance Recruitment Service, United Nations, New York. Personal interviews are arranged only at the request of the United Nations.

## Alabama:

### County Committees Plan Action Programs; "Senior Citizens Week" in Dallas County

This item was submitted by Mr. Alvin T. Prestwood, Chairman, Governor's Advisory Committee for the 1961 White House Conference on Aging, Administration Building, 64 N. Union St., Montgomery 4.

Nearly two-thirds of Alabama's counties now have special committees on aging, with most of the newer ones organized as a direct result of the activities of our WHCA State Committee.

Projects and programs undertaken by these county committees range all the way from formation of clubs solely for recreational purposes, to the development of broad comprehensive services for the aged.

One particularly enthusiastic committee is in Dallas County. Months of cooperative effort and planning were climaxed in October with a "Senior Citizens Week." Beginning on Saturday with the ringing of church chimes and the signing of an official proclamation by the Mayor of Selma (the county seat) and the Judge of Probate, the ob-

servance continued with a planned series of events each day:

- a tea honoring all "seniors" of the community at which period dresses were featured;
- special church services, and church parties for older members;
- "senior" programs by civic clubs for their over-65 members;
- a coffee at Craig Air Force Base;
- a domino game for older men;
- television interviews;
- an address on the needs of the aging at the court house;
- a Salvation Army "over 80" birthday party;
- open house at a local nursing home;
- a day for "senior" hostesses at the local USO;
- a musical program at the library;
- numerous school activities directed to and for the aging.

The splendid cooperation of individuals and organizations in the community and the greater awareness of the needs of the aged are expected to lead to many improved programs and services. "Senior Citizens Week" doubtless will become an annual event.

## San Francisco:

### Major Program Gets Started

This article is adapted from a release issued by the United Community Fund of San Francisco, 2015 Steiner St., San Francisco 15.

(Related Story: *Aging* 73, p. 6)

San Francisco's Program for the Aging, financed by a \$40,000 grant to the United Community Fund from the Ford Foundation, and by a \$10,000 grant from the Junior League of San Francisco, got under way this month.

#### Mrs. Helene Lipscomb

Staff director for the three-year demonstration project in coordination of services and community action to secure improvements is Mrs. Helene Lipscomb, for 10 years director of the Chronic Illness Service Center. She was one of the leaders in stimulating organization of San Francisco's Homemaker Service, and of the new Home Medical Care program jointly operated by the Visiting Nurse Association and SF Society for Crippled Children and Adults. She has also been working with the SF Medical Society on a plan for evaluation of commercial nursing homes, and has organized institutes for nursing home proprietors in an effort to upgrade standards of care.

(Other Ford-financed demonstrations for the aging are in West Contra Costa County, Calif.; Denver, Colo.; Marion County, Kans.; St. Louis, Mo.; St. Paul, Minn.; and Worcester, Mass.)

The Ford Foundation granted a total of

\$332,000 nationwide to demonstrate and evaluate community organization on problems of aging.

#### Development of Plans for This Project

Plans for conducting a demonstration in coordination and improvement of services for the aged in San Francisco have been evolving for over a year, beginning with the appointment of Mr. Austin Morris as chairman of the Steering Committee on the Aged, a special committee of the UCF's Social Planning Committee. An application to the Ford Foundation for financing such a project was made late in 1959.

Morris then was drafted by Mayor George Christopher to head his committee for a San Francisco Conference on the Aging held in June to gather information and formulate recommendations to assist the State Conference on Aging and the WHCA. A major recommendation of the San Francisco Conference was that a plan for coordination of community services for older citizens be developed.

#### Joint Grants Extend for Three Years

The Ford grant will finance the project for two and a half years. The Junior League's grant of \$10,000 will make it possible to extend this period to the full three years originally planned by the Steering Committee.

A committee of 80 to 100 individuals concerned with services to the aging is being appointed to give overall direction, as a subcommittee of the Social Planning Committee of the United Community Fund.

## National Jewish Welfare Board:

### New Community Projects for the Aging

By Bernard Postal, Director of Public Information, JWB, 145 E 32 St, NYC 16.

(Related story: *Aging* 70, p. 9)

The National Jewish Welfare Board's WHCA delegates will report to the White House Conference on three new communitywide projects just begun by its JWB-affiliated Jewish Community Centers in Chicago, Philadelphia and New York.

#### Chicago

The Chicago project is the newly-opened Meyer Kaplan Senior Adult Center, which is believed to be the first facility in the Midwest especially designed for the recreational and cultural needs of senior citizens. The Center is a wing of the new Bernard Horwich Jewish Community Center.

The new program is serving 500 older adults. Lunch is served daily and plans are in the making for serving a second meal daily. The center also serves as headquarters for the citywide Golden Age Program of the Jewish Community Centers of Chicago.

#### Philadelphia

An educational program for the aged, sponsored by the Philadelphia YM-YWHA, has been started at the Joseph Daroff "Older Adult Campus." The program includes classes in English and citizenship, cultural history of the Jews, arts and crafts, creative writing, music, ballroom dancing, and film and trip activities.

#### New York City

In New York, JWB's New York Metropolitan Section, which represents more than 90 Jewish Community Centers, together with the Central Bureau for the Jewish Aged conducted an all-day conference at which plans were made for developing a communitywide program of leisure-time activities for the aged.

This conference mapped a program for fostering inter-agency planning and cooperation among all Jewish social welfare agencies concerned with providing leisure time activities and services for the aged in the Greater New York area. 250 volunteer and professional leaders of homes for the aged, family service agencies, hospitals, Jewish Community Centers, community organization and coordinating groups, and vocational agencies heard the principal speaker, Miss Miriam R. Ephraim (JWB Program Director, and Consultant to the WHCA), project an ideal community pattern of service and cooperation, based on the experiences of many other communities and organizations participating in the White House Conference on Aging.

## Massachusetts:

### Progress in Housing for the Aged

This article is adapted from the November 1960 *News Bulletin*, issued by the Massachusetts Council for the Aging, Room 27, State House, Boston 33.

The Massachusetts State Housing Board has released the number of apartments which have been built under Chapter 667, Acts of 1954. This Act provides modern apartments for those in the limited-income group of older citizens, who are in need of safe, adequate housing.

Income limit for single persons is \$2,500, and for two persons \$3,000. Need is one of the major requisites for occupancy.

Thirty-three communities in the State now have a total of some 1,537 apartments completed and occupied. Of this number, five communities have constructed more than one project. There are 724 apartments under construction in 14 other communities. In 19 other communities, funds are available for construction of 882 additional apartments.

Legislation providing for a guarantee by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts of \$70,000,000 in State subsidized housing for older citizens has assisted many persons with limited income to enjoy modern, healthy and comfortable housing.

If details on towns and cities where these projects have been constructed are desired please address the Council for the Aging.

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(WHCA PLANS—continued from p. 1)

confusion caused by issuing large numbers of uncorrelated recommendations.

Specific recommendations, however, will be included as part of the official record of the Conference.

The "policy statements" will be developed from the recommendations drawn up by WHCA delegates at the workgroup level, then voted upon, revised, and coordinated by larger groups of delegates. The official policy statements will be presented to the two final plenary sessions of the Conference.

#### Dr. James Watt Presided

Due to the absence of Under Secretary Bertha Adkins in Europe on a special UNESCO assignment, the presiding officer at these meetings was Dr. James Watt, Special Assistant to the Secretary of HEW for Aging.

Advisory Committee Chairman Robert W. Kean and Special Staff on Aging Director Robert H. Grant reviewed staff preparations and brought members of the Advisory Committee up to date on recent WHCA developments. They reported that all background papers and case studies were scheduled to be distributed prior to the Conference.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A new translation of a Russian review of research in aging in Russia, from 1761-1958, is, in my opinion, a most unusual document, and would be of considerable interest to the readers of *Aging*.

It has a great deal of theory in it, not substantiated by much scientific fact, but it does give the current Russian view and philosophy of research in aging.

For example, they study aging from birth to death, whereas we, mistakenly I think, have tended to try to study aging in aged individuals in old folks homes. Our approach is gradually changing.

A limited number of these booklets is available to readers of *Aging* on a first-come-first-served basis from our office.

The title of this translation (No. 6-2-60) is "Russian Studies on Age-Associated Physiology, Biochemistry, and Morphology. Historical Sketch and Bibliography," by Professor V. N. Nikitin.

STANLEY R. MOHLER, M.D.

Center for Aging Research  
National Institutes of Health  
Bethesda 14, Md.

The information you requested concerning our booklet, "A Positive Program for GERIATRIC PATIENTS," is that we have a very limited supply and I would like requests limited to single copies only. All requests should be sent to our office.

This 110-page booklet contains our experiences in establishing a Nursing Home Program for our geriatric patients. Our philosophy is one of thoroughly diagnosing and intensively treating the geriatric patient while he is in the hospital.

When the patient achieves maximum hospital benefits, plans are then set in motion by the Social Service Department for appropriate realistic discharge planning. The discharge may be to the patient's home, nursing home, foster home, board and room setting, etc. We have entered into a pact with all community facilities assisting us in discharge plans and in our efforts to have the community accept discharged patients.

In the booklet, special mention is made of the many facets involved in orienting those outside the hospital to this program.

BYRON M. BILLINGS

Chief, Registrar Division  
Veterans Administration Hospital  
Salt Lake City 31, Utah

Enclosed is a copy of a reprint from the June 1960, *Traffic Safety*, "What's Ahead For The Aging Driver?"

These are not available for bulk distribution. We will, however, make single copies available to readers of *Aging* if you desire to list the original article and the reprint. Persons requesting the reprint should specify that they saw the listing in *Aging*.

DORRIS E. MERSDORF

Senior Consultant, Home Department  
National Safety Council  
425 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago 11.

In reply to your enquiry regarding *The Later Years*, the following information is supplied.

This newsletter of 12 to 16 pages in handy size, is issued quarterly and free of cost, as a part of the activities of the Advisory Committee on the Care of the Aged, to assist in promoting the welfare of old people in New Zealand. It contains information submitted by the Advisory Committee, details of decisions of the Government concerning the welfare of old people, and items from other sources which may be of value and interest to welfare workers and administrators.

The July 1960 issue contains, for example, articles on the function and place of Welfare Councils in New Zealand, Mental Breakdown in Old Age (part of an address by the Director, Division of Mental Health), the Home Help Service as operated by the Social Security Department, and Road Safety.

A very limited supply of the July issue, and limited supplies of some of the previous issues, are available.

Further enquiries should be addressed to the undersigned.

P. BUDDLE

Secretary, Advisory Committee  
on the Care of the Aged  
c/o Department of Health, P.O.  
Box 5013,  
Wellington, New Zealand

The evaluation of our retirement planning program ("Planning the Years Ahead—A Pilot Project on Retirement Preparation for Employees of the State of Minnesota, April-June 1959," 31 pp. mimeographed) was not intended for distribution outside the State. But we do feel some critical knowledge is contained in the report and would be willing to share it with those who are directly involved in the planning of similar series.

We feel this report could be useful as a case study paper for the White House Conference on Aging. We have learned some valuable planning lessons from the critique of the participants.

BERNARD E. NASH

Special Consultant on Aging  
State of Minnesota Department  
of Public Welfare  
St. Paul 1.

Reprints of a paper on "Musical Therapy," presented by Dorothy Enos, R.N., at the 1960 National Geriatrics Society Convention, are available @ 15¢ to cover postage and handling.

WILLIAM SPIGLER

Executive Director  
National Geriatrics Society  
5 Park Towne S.  
Philadelphia 30.

A limited number of the *Annual Report* for 1959-60 of the San Francisco Senior Center is available on request. We will have to charge 25¢ to cover the cost of handling.

It includes an illustrated series of "interviews" with our members, who give their answers to the question, "What Does the Senior Center Mean to You?"

FLORENCE E. VICKERY

Executive Director  
San Francisco Senior Center  
Aquatic Park, Foot of Polk St.  
San Francisco 9.

## Letters to the Editor—continued

I am enclosing the November 17 issue of *Optometric Weekly* (Professional Press, Inc., 5 N. Wabash Ave., Chicago 2; \$4 a year), which features the addresses given last June at the Symposium on Vision Care of the Aging, sponsored by the American Optometric Association. (See *Aging* 71, p. 2.)

I was quite pleased to see that the entire issue was devoted to this subject in preparation for the White House Conference. There are at least two of the papers which might be of interest to your readers.

(1) I was pleased to see that under the Section on Rehabilitation of the White House Conference on Aging an entire work group division has been devoted to "Vision Loss Among the Aging and Aged." In keeping with this, there is one article devoted entirely to this by Dr. Rosenbloom.

(2) The article on "Optometric Participation in Homes for the Aged" is the first of its kind in the major magazine in our Optometric literature. We have had articles previously which spelled out certain techniques to be used in the homes for the aged, but we have not had an article of this type devoted to a definition of the activities and programs which can be instituted by optometry in these homes.

RALPH E. WICK, O.D.  
Chairman, Committee on Vision  
Care of the Aging  
The American Optometric  
Association  
Box 3006, Rapid City, S. Dak.

A very successful "Great Books Course" was conducted last year at the Mayflower Home under the supervision of the English Department of Grinnell College.

Nine "Great Books" were reviewed during the nine months of the school year. Sixteen retired citizens attended the first meeting of the course, and 20 were present for the last review.

The following "Great Books" made up the nine-month course:

Mark Twain: "Huckleberry Finn"  
George Elliot: "Adam Bede"  
Benjamin Franklin: "Autobiography"  
Walt Whitman: "Leaves of Grass"  
William Shakespeare: "Macbeth"  
William Faulkner: "The Bear"  
Jonathan Swift: "Gulliver's Travels"  
Homer: "The Iliad"

The enthusiasm for the course was well expressed at the last meeting when one of the ladies leaving the room remarked "I wish they would let us know what books are to be taken up next fall so we could be cramming on them this summer."

Yes, as we grow old, books are still eager to talk to us and help to make us delightful conversationalists.

WILLIAM H. DREIER  
Director of Activities  
Mayflower Home  
Grinnell, Iowa

The *Cleveland Press* of November 7 carried a major feature with pictures describing the 25th annual *Press* Golden Wedding party.

This event was attended by 900 couples.

The 1936 party, in the Hotel Statler, drew 250 couples. Silver cups were awarded for proficiency in old-time dancing, and one man did a clog-and-tap solo. Cider and doughnuts were served.

Now the party includes a "sit-down" dinner. This year, the main course was breast of chicken.

As in other years, some sons and daughters were escorts for the Golden Wedding couple—and sat in the balcony, watching the fun.

If your readers want any more information, they may get in touch with us.

MARIE DAERR  
The *Cleveland Press*  
901 Lakeside Ave.  
Cleveland 14.

You will find herewith a copy of the report of our Mayor's Committee on Problems of Our Older Citizens. This Committee of representatives from private and public welfare agencies was appointed by the Manchester Board of Mayor and Aldermen, on my request to that Honorable Board.

The Committee's intentions are to develop programs for the aged in the areas of recreation, health, income maintenance, social welfare, and community and family relationship. We are also working towards giving equal job opportunity to elderly persons.

You will see by the report that the Committee has been very active.

Copies are available for readers of *Aging*.

LEONELLO BRETON  
Commissioner of City Welfare  
Department of City Welfare  
Manchester, N.H.

Recent years have seen a growing demand and need for social scientists in the various health fields as well as for the use of social science knowledge and techniques by persons already engaged in the medical care field.

In recognition of these dual needs, the Ford Foundation is assisting the Bureau of Public Health Economics at The University of Michigan in establishing a program of graduate training for research involving social science in medical care.

This program, now in its second year, is described in a brochure available from us.

We would appreciate it if you would call the attention of your readers to this program by listing it in your journal.

S. J. AXELROD, M.D.  
Director, Bureau of Public  
Health Economics  
School of Public Health  
The University of Michigan  
Ann Arbor, Michigan.

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